

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ INS: EWGNEHM: HME

EXT. 20653 4/10/73

APPROVED BY NEA: RPD AVIES

D: MSAMUELS

NEA/ EX: LRHUNT

S/ S - GWARD (SUBS)

NEA/ INS: DTSCHNEIDER

S/ S- O: K. KURZE

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O 110202 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 067063

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

E. O. 11652, GDS

TAGS: OCON, NP

SUBJECT: DEPSEC VISIT TO SOUTH ASIA

REF: A) KATHMANDU 1448, B) KATHMANDU 1455

SAIGON FOR AMBASSADOR LAISE

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES EFFORT MISSION PUT INTO ITS
TIMELY RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST FOR SPECIFICS ON DEPSEC' S
KATHMANDU STOP. HERE ARE FEW ITEMS WE WOULD LIKE TO
PURSUE FURTHER.

2. REVISED TIMING OF AM SCHEDULE IN REF B EXCELLENT
AS IT PROVIDES NEEDED BREAK IN MORNING AT GUEST HOUSE
FOR FRESHING UP BEFORE CALLS ON FOREIGN MINISTER
AND PRIME MINISTER.

3. WE WILL NEED TO HAVE SPECIFIC LISTING OF OCCUPANTS
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IN CARS 1) IN TRANSIT FROM ARRIVAL CEREMONY TO GUEST HOUSE, 2) ON TOURING KATHMANDU AND PATAN ON MORNING OF APRIL 19, AND 3) ON DEPARTURE FROM GUEST HOUSE ON MORNING OF APRIL 20.

4. REGARDING HOUSING AS REPORTED IN PARAGRAPH 3 REF A, WE HAVE DISCUSSED MATTER INFORMALLY WITH B. P. RIMAL. HE SEES NO PROBLEM ON GON SIDE IF SOME MEMBERS OF PARTY EXCLUDING PRINCIPALS WOULD PREFER TO STAY WITH AMERICAN FRIENDS IN MISSION; HOWEVER, SCHNEIDER WOULD PREFER TO STAY WITH PRINCIPALS. ADVISE SPECIFIC HOUSING ASSIGNMENTS SOONEST.

5. RIMAL SAYS THAT SINCE ALL MEMBERS OF PARTY ARE OFFICIAL GUESTS OF GON, ALL WILL BE INCLUDED IN STATE DINNER ON APRIL 19. PLEASE CONFIRM.

6. WE WISH ALSO TO DISCUSS AGAIN QUESTION OF DRESS FOR STATE DINNER. WE PREFER NOT REPEAT NOT HAVING DINNER REQUIRING FORMAL WEAR. NO OTHER FUNCTION ON TRIP IS FORMAL AND THIS WOULD REQUIRE MAJOR ADDITION TO WARDROBE ACROSS THE BOARD. WE DISCUSSED MATTER WITH B. P. RIMAL WHO SAYS GON HAS NO STRONG FEELING ON THIS ISSUE. THAT, INDEED, GON OFTEN HAS FORMAL DINNERS WITHOUT BLACK TIE FOR CONVENIENCE OF TRAVELERS. HE ADDED THAT NEPALESE WEAR NATIVE DRESS REGARDLESS WHETHER DINNER BLACK TIE OR NOT. WOULD YOU PLEASE CHECK WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS TO SEE IF FORMAL DINNER WITHOUT BLACK TIE (MEANING WITH DARK SUIT) WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. HAVING SAID ALL OF THIS, LET US STRESS THAT PARTY WISHES TO CONFORM WITH GON DESIRES AND WILL PROCEED WITH BLACK TIE DINNER IF GON SO DESIRES. WE RESERVE TO YOUR GOOD JUDGMENT IN HANDLING THIS MATTER. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** STADIS, EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE067063
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EWGNEHM: HME
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730440/aaaagcy.tel
Line Count: 102
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, STADIS
Reference: 73 KATHMANDU 1448, 73 KATHMANDU 1455
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Dec-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <22 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971224
Subject: DEPSEC VISIT TO SOUTH ASIA
TAGS: OCON, NP
To: KATHMANDU
SAIGON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005